SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY San Joaquin County Mental Health Court Program – (\$990,551 grant)

San Joaquin County's MIOCR program is a comprehensive, county-wide prevention and intervention project, anchored in the evidence-based Assertive Community Treatment model. The core of the program is the multi-disciplinary Juvenile Justice Assessment and Treatment (J-JAT) team. Through grant funding, this team (comprised of Mental Health Clinicians, a Psychiatric Technician and a Child Psychiatrist) will add an additional licensed Clinician and two (2) Mental Health Rehabilitation Specialists to provide out-of-custody treatment and support services to youth participating in the Mental Health Court program. During the 18 month grant period, approximately 120 youth will receive rigorous and individualized community-based treatment as well as intensive probationary supervision.

The key component of the program is the newly dedicated Mental Health Court. This handson, therapeutic court monitors and assesses participants' progress in treatment through periodic review hearings (using rewards and sanctions when necessary) and culminating in graduation ceremonies after successful program completion. Two (2) dedicated Probation Officers oversee and monitor the intensive caseloads and act as liaisons between the J-JAT team and the court.

J-JAT team members and Probation Officers collaborate on establishing goals and interventions to address the needs of each participant and their family. Two community school sites serve as centralized locations where the J-JAT team and Probation Officers meet with program youth, provide services, treatment, and specialized classroom instruction. Services include individual and family counseling, independent living skills education, and parenting skills training. All mental health court program participants receive Aggression Replacement Training (ART), including ART support classes for their parents/family.

Grant funds also support a team of Mental Health Clinicians to provide enhanced in-custody screening and assessments of all juveniles booked into the Juvenile Hall in order to identify individuals having mental health issues.

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